

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CEA-02 FRB-02 FCSC-01 EB-11

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-07 CIEP-02

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R 111756Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1442

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 5133

BONN FOR CROWLEY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, BE, CZ, PL, AL

SUBJECT: GOLD COMMISSION

REF: A. STATE 141946 RE CZECH CASE

B. BRUSSELS 2953 (NOTAL) RE POLISH CASE

C. EUR/EE MEMCON OF 7/13/73 RE ALBANIAN CASE

1. TRI-PARTITE GOLD COMMISSION HELD A MEETING ON SHORT NOTICE JULY 11. MEETING HELD AT LESS THAN 24 HOURS NOTICE BECAUSE FRENCH COMMISSIONER UNEXPECTEDLY IN BRUSSELS. HEIMANN REPRESENTED USG WITH PHILLIPS PRESENT AS OBSERVER.

2. MAIN PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO AGREE ON PAYMENT OF MODEST RENT AND OFFICE EXPENSES (OUT OF COMMISSION FUNDS) TO HMG FOR USE OF SPACE IN BRITISH EMBASSY. AGREEMENT UNANIMOUS. WHEN AVAILABLE, FORMAL MINUTES OF MEETING WILL BE SENT TO DEPARTMENT BY AIRGRAM AS USUAL.

3. AFTER AGREEMENT ON OFFICE EXPENSES, THERE FOLLOWED
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A CONFIDENTIAL AND UNRECORDED REVIEW OF THE COMMISSION'S

THREE REMAINING CASES (ALBANIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND POLAND).

A. ALBANIAN CASE: UK COMMISSIONER REITERATED HMG'S CLAIM AGAINST THE ALBANIAN GOLD. US AND FRENCH MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT.

B. CZECH CASE: UK AND FRENCH COMMISSIONERS REPEATED THEIR READINESS TO RELEASE GOLD TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA WHENEVER USG IS READY. FRENCH COMMISSIONER REPORTED RECENT PRESS ITEM (E.G., LE MONDE, JULY 10) THAT US HAS AGREED TO THE COMMISSION'S RELEASE OF 18 TONS OF GOLD TO THE CZECHS. ACTING US COMMISSIONER REPLIED THAT HE WAS UNINFORMED AND UNINSTRUCTED ON THIS MATTER.

C. POLISH CASE: FRENCH COMMISSIONER REPEATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S READINESS TO RELEASE THE POLISH GOLD WHENEVER THE US AND UK WERE READY. UK COMMISSIONER REPORTED THAT POLAND HAD LAST RAISED THE ISSUE WITH HMG ON APRIL 10, 1974, BUT THAT NO PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AT THAT TIME ON THE DANZIG BOND QUESTION AND THAT THEREFORE HMG WAS NOT PREPARED TO APPROVE RELEASE OF ANY GOLD TO POLAND AT THIS TIME. ACTING US COMMISSIONER REPORTED THAT, TO BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE, POLES HAVE NOT YET DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH ANY ONE IN USG THIS YEAR.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THIS EMBASSY BE BROUGHT UP-TO-DATE ON THE STATE OF US NEGOTIATIONS WITH POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA INsofar AS THOSE NEGOTIATIONS RELATE TO GOLD UNDER THE COMMISSION'S CONTROL FIRESTONE

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